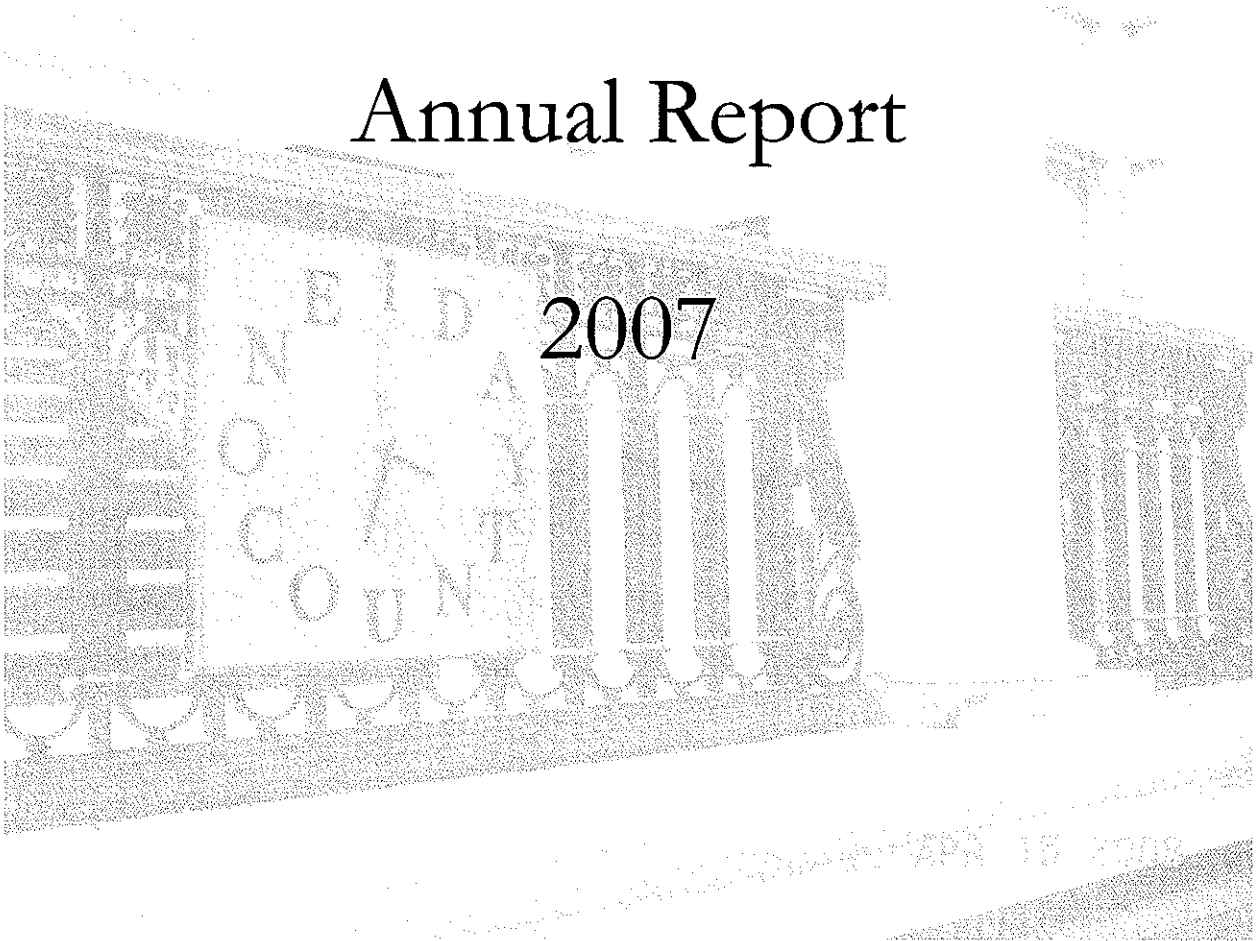


Oneida County Department of Social Services

Annual Report

2007



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ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
12/03/07

Line of Succession

Paul E. Spencer, Jr., Director
Tara Vandenberg, Lead Social Work Supervisor
Mary Rideout, Support Staff Supervisor

Social Services Committee
Doug Hall, Chairman

John Hoffman
Tom Rudolph
Jim Sharon
Peter Wolk

Paul E. Spencer, Jr. (08/01/74)
Director

SOCIAL SERVICES
TARA VANDENBERG (01/03/83)
LEAD SOCIAL WORK
SUPERVISOR

Michael Bilis
Lead SW (07/01/69)

Judy Geyer
Lead SW (11/17/86)

Amy Mayo
Lead SW (12/16/96)

Tricia Barr
Lead SW (12/28/98)

Jean Sutherland-Krieger
SW (11/01/99)

Tim Kuehn
SW (04/23/01)

Mary Grefe
SW (12/03/07)

Beth Hoerchler
Lead SW (01/18/99)

Kim Haugen
SW (01/31/01)

Melissa Clark
SW (03/24/03)

Dawn Winquist
Social Services Aide
(06/24/85)

ECONOMIC SUPPORT
LORETTA ROLAIN (10/26/79)
ECONOMIC SUPPORT
SUPERVISOR

Rebecca Spengler
ES Specialist (05/03/99)

Heidi Nehls
ES Specialist 11/15/04)

Jennifer George
ES Specialist (03/14/05)

Bonnie Tillmann
ES Specialist (08/08/05)

Ambler De La Luz Hernandez
ES Specialist (04/16/07)

Gina Hart
ES Specialist (10/03/07)

IV-D CHILD SUPPORT
VICKIE VOSS (11/07/94)
SUPERVISOR

Donna Levknecht
SS Secretary (10/31/72)

Nancy Fedderly
CS Specialist (02/06/95)

Jennifer Hackbarth
CS Specialist (01/14/02)

Ann Prom
Typist II (12/05/05)

SOCIAL SERVICES
MARY GADZALINSKI (07/15/02)
SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISOR

Jan Winnicki
SW (10/09/84)

Amy Kohn
SW (01/14/02)

Michele Weizenicker
SW (01/21/02)

Marsha Holley
SW (03/01/04)

Trisha Klotz
SW (09/05/06)

Bonnie Davis
SW (10/30/06)

Anne Foster
SW (03/05/07)

Katherine Kennedy
SW (04/23/07)

Brenda Vandenberg
SW (10/01/07)

Kirsten Kronberger
SS Aide (03/25/98)

SUPPORT STAFF
MARY RIDEOUT (03/22/93)
SUPERVISOR

Vicki Nelson
SS Information Specialist
(08/31/89)

Tina Kimball
Account Technician (09/10/98)

Sue Rasmussen
Account Clerk II (03/26/01)

Cheryl Cummings
Account Clerk II (02/13/02)

Linda Jacques
Account Clerk I (09/05/06)

Donna Lewis
Typist III (11/26/01)

Jacquelyn Nowak
Typist II (01/16/06)

Donna Schultz
Typist II (12/11/06)

Karen Smith
Typist II (04/30/07)

Linda Pipgras
Typist I (09/28/06)

Account	YE Allocation/Budget	Total Expenditure
Provided Services	1,756,335.00	1,547,561.57
Economic Support	488,040.00	493,012.59
Child Support	435,585.00	414,232.97
Tri County Domestic Abuse	15,000.00	15,000.00
Crisis Respite Day Care	3,000.00	1,754.00
Day Care Administration	33,842.00	28,871.92
Promoting Safe & Stable Families	46,350.00	46,351.06
Foster Home/Group Home	556,787.00	329,703.58
Residential Care Centers	744,910.00	637,012.67
Youth Aids-State (LHS)	278,286.00	144,064.74
Kinship Care	79,757.00	77,128.34
Cmty Intervention 06/30/07	18,084.00	18,085.43
Cmty Intervention & Aftercare 06/30/08	12,680.00	9,353.52
IVE Children and Families	135,422.00	97,975.30
Independent Living Grant	15,751.00	9,806.58
Family Visitation Program	100,000.00	89,408.05
Community Options*	308,862.00	287,588.02
Supportive Home Care	81,000.00	65,019.79
COP-Waiver*	579,267.00	564,113.24
Community Integration Program II	1,036,037.00	1,036,037.59
Community Integration Relocation & Diversion	148,945.00	117,534.96
Elder Abuse	17,694.00	17,693.44
Protective Placements	65,000.00	70,860.72
MA Transportation	101,000.00	99,479.90
Burial	42,351.00	40,860.50
LIHEAP	64,577.00	58,662.59
Fraud & Front End	11,031.00	5,945.33
Total In all Programs		6,323,118.40
Medical Assistance		23,134,286.00
Food Stamps		1,959,220.00
Total Cost of all Statutorily Required Programs (State, Federal & Local)		31,416,624.40
Total Oneida County Tax Levy	2,089,489.00	1,498,831.50
IV-D Child Support Agency		
Total Collections		5,937,470.31
Total Reimbursements & Incentives		481,376.53

*Some COP funds are included in COPW.

SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT

Requests and referrals for services decreased by 351 requests in 2007. There were 4,265 requests for services in 2007 and 4,616 requests for services in 2006.

LONG TERM SUPPORT AND ADULT SERVICES

<u>SERVICE AREA</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Adult Foster Home Licensing	03	03
Adult Protective Service	133	172
CIP II and COP/Developmentally Disabled	01	00
CIP II and COP/Elderly	33	31
CIP II and COP/Physically Disabled	04	15
COP/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse	01	00
COP/Developmentally Disabled (all)	03	09
COP/Elderly	275	195
COP/Mentally Ill (all)	14	12
COP/Physically Disabled (all)	40	48
Guardianships	25	33
Protective Placement	41	18
Chore & Supportive Home Care Requests	43	42
SSI-E Certifications	16	10

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES/JUVENILE COURT**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

Physical Abuse/Child (Assessment/Investigation)	93	68
Physical Abuse/Child (Screen & Summary, Custody Issue)	20	13
Neglect/Child (Assessment/Investigation)	162	148
Neglect/Child (Screen & Summary, Custody Issue)	33	21
Sexual Abuse/Child (Assessment/Investigation)	148	119
Sexual Abuse/Child (Screen & Summary, Custody Issue)	46	39
Emotional/Verbal Abuse (Assessment/Investigation)	02	00
Emotional/Verbal Abuse (Screen & Summary, Custody Issue)	02	00
Neglect or Abuse/Child (Assess likeliness to occur)	00	00
Mutual Sexual Activity	26	14
Adult Perpetrator of Physical Abuse	76	62
Juvenile Perpetrator of Physical Abuse	16	15
Adult Perpetrator of Sexual Abuse	96	75
Juvenile Perpetrator of Sexual Abuse	57	56
Adult Perpetrator of Neglect	129	109
Juvenile Perpetrator of Neglect	01	00
Adult Perpetrator of Emotional/Verbal Abuse	04	00
Independent Investigation (Child Abuse)	03	00
Screen Out	51	32
Screen Out Adult Perpetrator	26	14
Screen Out Juvenile Perpetrator	06	04

OTHER CHILDREN'S SERVICES

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Early Intervention	74	56
Aftercare Grant Referrals	04	05
Delinquency/Over age 10	280	237
Delinquency/Under age 10	13	07
Child Guardianship	01	01
Stepchild Adoption Studies	20	09
Kinship Care	25	34
Suicidal Juvenile	05	02
Child in Need of Protection and Services	18	17
Truant from School	20	26
Runaway (Truant from Home)	08	10
Uncontrollable Teen	123	102
Counseling Involving Children	598	660
Foster Home Licensing	35	18
Out-of-Home Placement Requests (all)	117	118
Protective Service Alert - Attempt to Locate	00	00
Drug Abuse - Juvenile	46	47
Drug Test - Juvenile	69	69
Courtesy Supervision/Case Monitoring/Interview	04	13
Child Care Provider Certification Requests	56	40
Custody Issues (other than child abuse)	35	32
Supervised Visitation/CHIPS	09	21
Home Studies/CHIPS	10	08
Home Studies/Delinquency Cases	00	00
Crisis Respite	14	03
Prevention	49	36
Parenting Challenging Children	36	40
Independent Living	07	09
Corrective Thinking	16	17
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		
Donations/Referrals to receive donations	57	56
Domestic Abuse (hand-counted)	40	47
Information & Referral	140	152
Volunteer Certified Driver	10	10
Volunteer Guardian	00	01
Child Abuse Information	02	03
Resource Development/Request for Speakers, etc.	10	14
Client Record Requests	155	159
Gift Recipient Requests	764	675
Adoption Information	02	02
Day Care Certification Complaints	00	00
Other	116	132
TOTAL	4,616	4,265

SUPPORTIVE HOME CARE

Supportive Home Care (SHC) is the provision of services to maintain clients in independent or supervised living in their home or the home of their friends or relatives. The services help people meet their daily living needs, insure their well being, and/or reduce the likelihood that they will be placed into alternate living arrangements.

In 2007, we had 41 clients receiving Supportive Home Care funding and services in the amount of \$65,019.79.

Supportive Home Care funding is limited. We continued to do certifications for "Supplemental Security Income Exceptional Expense Supplement" (SSI-E) for persons in substitute care or natural residential settings. These certifications are submitted to DHFS (Department of Health & Family Services). We assess and document that the person requires at least 40 hours per month of supportive home care, daily living skills training, or community support services.

Upon approval of the certification by DHFS a state supplement is paid to the person. This money is to be used to purchase needed services.

In 2007, we completed 9 SSI-E certifications which allowed people to purchase services needed without utilizing Supportive Home Care funding.

COMMUNITY OPTIONS PROGRAM (COP)

The Community Options Program (COP) is a system of assessing need and bringing together services for people who cannot live independently because of long term medical, physical, or mental problems. Some of the elderly and disabled prefer not to go to a nursing home or institution when they require care. For the people who choose to live in the community, the COP program tries to bring together services to assist them in living at home. The services vary with the individual needs of the client.

COP targets five disability groups and the program mandates serving according to the percentage assigned to each target group. As of December 2007 they were as follows:

	<u>State Quotas</u>	<u>Oneida County</u>
1. Frail Elderly	57.0%	64.5%
2. Physically Disabled	6.6%	11.0%
3. Developmentally Disabled	14.0%	17.0%
4. Chemically Dependent	0.0%	0.0%
5. Chronically Mentally Ill	6.6%	7.5%

Waiting lists for assessments were set up in September 1985. We continue to have people on the waiting list.

The waiting list by target group as of December 2007 is as follows:

Frail Elderly	00 individuals
Physically Disabled	00 individuals
Developmentally Disabled	34 individuals
Chemically Dependent	0 individuals
Chronically Mentally Ill	0 individuals

Oneida County Department of Social Services completed the following assessments and case plans through December 31, 2007.

COP ASSESSMENT, CASE PLAN, AND SERVICE SUMMARY

	<u>2007</u>			
<u>Target Groups</u>	<u>Assessments</u>	<u>Plans</u>	<u>New Clients</u>	<u>Carryover Clients</u>
Frail Elderly	49	35	21	93
Physically Disabled	19	16	14	28
Developmentally Disabled	00	00	00	26
Chronically Mentally Ill	05	03	02	09
Chemically Dependent	<u>00</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>00</u>
TOTALS	73	54	37	156

Community Options expenditures in 2006:	\$287,588.24
Community Options dollars used as match for Waiver	<u>\$ 84,846.62</u>
TOTAL COP	\$372,434.86

MEDICAID WAIVERS

The purpose of the Medicaid (MA) Community Waivers is to divert or relocate MA eligible persons from nursing homes, ICF-MR facilities, or the Wisconsin Centers for Developmentally Disabled and to use those MA funds to provide non-institutional, community-integrated services.

Oneida County Department of Social Services has utilized the Community Integration Program II (CIP II) and the Community Options Program Waiver (COP-W). These two programs serve the elderly, physically disabled, and developmentally disabled if no active treatment is required.

The Medicaid Waivers allow a county to serve more people with long-term support needs with MA dollars. These people often have needs which are not covered by the Medicaid Waivers; consequently they may also be funded by the Community Options Program.

The number of persons that can be served by the MA Waivers is limited and approved by the Bureau of Long Term Support, Department of Health and Social Services.

Recipients of MA Waiver Services in 2007

COP-Waiver	86
CIP II	71
CIP II Relocation	9
CIP II Diversion	1

Total Program costs:

Community Integration Program II:	\$1,036,038.00
Community Options Program-Waiver:	\$ 564,113.00
CIP II Relocation	\$ 103,094.00
CIP II Nursing Home Diversion	\$ 14,442.00

MEDICAID (MA) CASE MANAGEMENT

Oneida County Department of Social Services is a Medicaid certified county agency. This allows a county agency to capture federal Medicaid revenue for case management activities (assessment, case plans, on-going monitoring and service coordination) provided to MA recipients in any of the target populations eligible for the benefit.

Target populations eligible for this benefit include:

Families with Child at Risk, Birth-to-Three, Children with Asthma, TB, Persons who are age 65 or older, Person who has a diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias, physically or sensory disable, developmentally disabled person, chronically mentally ill persons, alcoholic and/or drug abusing persons, severely emotionally disturbed persons under age 21, and persons diagnosed as having HIV infection.

The department is limited in billing some of the target populations because the State of Wisconsin already claims federal reimbursement of these services.

The following reimbursement was received in 2007:

<u>Sources</u>	<u>MA Revenue Received</u>
Community Options Program	\$ 10,235.76
Supportive Home Care	\$ 15,713.81
Social Services	<u>\$ 5,079.19</u>
TOTAL	\$ 31,028.76

Elder Abuse Direct Service Funds

Elder Abuse Direct Service Funds are to be used to provide direct services to victims of elder abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and/or financial exploitation age 60 or older (Wis. Stat. 46.90). The goal is to reduce the incidence of elder abuse, neglect, and/or financial exploitation through the provision of preventative/early intervention service(s) for individuals identified at risk of elder abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation.

Funds may be used for a wide variety of purposes related to the provision of direct services and/or prevention programming for elder abuse victims or individuals identified at risk of elder abuse, neglect, and/or financial exploitation. Services that may be funded under this allocation include: advocacy, community-based aids/services, day care services/treatment, emergency response services, Interdisciplinary team, medical services, outreach service coordination, transportation, training for staff, and victim services.

The funds cannot be used for staff costs, administrative overhead and indirect costs. No more than 10% of a county's allocation may be used for outreach and training combined.

2007 Funding Allocation: \$17,273.00 # of Funding Requests in 2007: 34

2007 Expenditures: \$17,693.44

Elder/Adult Abuse Investigations/Referrals

In 2007 the Oneida County Board designated Oneida County Department of Social Services as the lead agency for investigations of elder adults at risk and adults at risk.

An “elder adult at risk” is “a person age 60 or older who has experienced, is currently experiencing, or is at risk of experiencing abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation.” 46.90 (1)(br).

An “adult at risk” is “any adult who has a physical or mental condition that substantially impairs his or her ability to care for his or her needs who has experienced, is currently experiencing, or is at risk of experiencing abuse, neglect, self-neglect or financial exploitation. 55.01(1e).

Investigations conducted in 2007:

Elder Adult at Risk: 113

- 49 substantiated
- 59 unsubstantiated
- 05 unable to substantiate

- Emotional abuse 05
- Self-neglect 85
- Neglect 04
- Neglect by others 03
- Physical abuse 03
- Financial exploitation 10
- Other 03

Adult at Risk: 16

- 06 substantiated
- 08 unsubstantiated
- 02 unable to substantiate

- Emotional abuse 01
- Self-neglect 08
- Neglect 00
- Neglect by others 03
- Physical abuse 02
- Financial exploitation 00
- Other 02

2007 DELINQUENCY REFERRALS

The Department received a total of 183 law enforcement referrals in 2007. The total number of juveniles referred was 129. Results of these referrals are as follows:

INFORMAL HANDLING:

Case closed (Court Lacks Jurisdiction)	05
Case Closed (Lack of Evidence)	02
Counsel and Release	30
Sanctions	02
Referred to CHIPS/JIPS Unit	01
Voluntary Restitution	19
Essay/Apology Letter	08
Citation	01
Early Intervention Program	53
Community Service	57
Counseling/AODA	35
Referred to Other County or State	23
Referred to Adult Court	01
Deferred Prosecution Agreement [DPA]	59**

FORMAL HANDLING:

Petition Requested:.....	64
Delinquency.....	64

** Deferred Prosecution Agreement may also include restitution and other services.

JUVENILE RESTITUTION - 2007

The total amount of restitution collected was: \$ 5,641.15

**ONEIDA COUNTY DELINQUENCY REFERRALS
2004 THROUGH 2007**

<u>Date</u>	<u># of LE Referrals</u>	<u># of Youth Referred</u>	<u># of Delinquency Petitions Filed</u>
2004	256	162	43
2005	234	169	56
2006	215	165	62
2007	183	129	64

The State of Wisconsin breaks down offenses into two categories for statistical purposes:

Part I Offenses include murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft (OMVWOC), arson, weapons charges, and bomb threats.

Part II Offenses include all other offenses with the exception of traffic offenses.

Oneida County's breakdown for 2004-2007 is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Part I Offenses</u>	<u>Part II Offenses</u>
2004	96	240
2005	92	243
2006	61	208
2007	37	195

Note: A Law Enforcement Referral may include more than one charge, but is only counted as one referral.

THE ONEIDA INTENSIVE AFTERCARE PROGRAM - CAPACITY BUILDING FUNDS

Effective 01/01/2007-12/31/2007

The Oneida Intensive Aftercare Program for Adjudicated Delinquents implemented a service team approach to provide intensive aftercare services to eligible youth and their families. County social work staff with existing caseloads and responsibilities could not begin to meet the overwhelming needs of these families. We were able to engage a social worker in the community to work part-time and whose only case role responsibility was to the aftercare program.

The county social work staff and aftercare staff person worked as a team to provide more effective services to youth in aftercare. They complimented and greatly enhanced the available community services. These efforts sought to preserve the integrity and improve the functioning of dysfunctional families and achieve the intent of the aftercare project:

- To reduce the recidivism rate
- To reunite families and maintain children in the least restrictive placement
- To reduce length of placement stays
- Oneida County youth would again be eligible for the Lincoln Hills School "Short Term Intensive Program"
- To reduce out-of-home placement costs for adjudicated delinquents

We believe that the identified needs of aftercare delinquents act as a barrier to the successes that these youth could have. Alcohol and drug issues often create a roller coaster ride for aftercare youth. As the youth does better, staff tend to see them less, as there are other crises to attend to, and consequently, without the support the youth begins to use again. The emotional problems most of the youth and dysfunctional families experience impede simple problem-solving tasks. This results in conflicts in the home, school, and community. Increased social work contacts aim to be preventative and walk families through the problem-solving process. Our efforts focus on each problem solved as a success and enhance the youth's self-reliance and self-respect. This, in turn, impacts school functioning and the perceptions of school staff of these youth. Youth who experience some success will be motivated to experience it again. Our intensive aftercare services support the teachers in their efforts and assist the youth in learning to be successful in school. The project staff person also concentrates on building independent living skills. The youth we serve are ill prepared to accept the responsibilities of adulthood.

Number of Youth Served
10 in 2007

Expenditure
\$27,438.95

TITLE IV-E INCENTIVE FUNDS & PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

In 2007 the Oneida County Department of Social Services received \$105,816.00 in Title IV-E Incentive funds, \$46,350.00 Promoting Safe and Stable Families funds, and \$28,340.00 in county funding to provide community based services to youth. Fifty percent of Title IV-E funding must be spent on prevention of abuse and neglect and the remaining 50% can be spent on other programming for children and families. 25% of Promoting Safe and Stable Families funds must be used in each of the required categories of Family Support, Family Preservation, and Family Reunification. The funding was spent as follows:

Social Services Community Programs:

Parenting Workshop	\$ 8,922.30	Early Intervention	\$ 29,726.18
Prevention Services	\$90,728.98	Community Grants	\$ 10,000.00
Chamber Dollars/Misc.	1,992.44	Staff/PF/Panel Training	\$ 2,956.46

The total expenditure for 2007 were \$144,326.36.

Prevention Programs:

The Prevention Program serves families who have been referred for abuse or neglect, or who are at risk of further involvement with Social Services, including potential out of home placements. The family can be referred by the investigating social worker or the assigned social worker at any time. The services are provided under an informal Dispositional Agreement, Deferred Prosecution Agreement, or Court Order. Services can include:

- Homemaker
- Tutor
- Parent aid
- Contracted social worker/case manager
- Active Parenting
- Supervised visits
- In-home Parenting Challenging Children
- Corrective Thinking Principles
- Mentor
- Family Reunification

Number of children served: 60

Chamber Dollars

Oneida County Dept of Social Services purchased chamber dollars to meet immediate needs of families in need to prevent neglect.

Number of families served: 34

Parenting Challenging Children

The Parenting Challenging Children Program is a 17-hour parenting workshop based on the principles of corrective thinking for teens. There is opportunity for individualized instruction but the greatest benefit is the group process and support. This program is offered for parents three times per year.

Number of participants: 31

Early Intervention for Early Offenders Program

The Early Intervention for Early Offenders Program has implemented a service team approach to provide intensive services to early offenders and their families. These are youth who are age fifteen or younger who are just beginning their involvement in the juvenile justice system. County social workers spend very little time with these youth, as the more chronic delinquent's demand so much staff time. It is our intent to recruit part-time, temporary social workers in the community to provide intensive intervention services. The county social work staff and grant-funded staff will work as a team to provide more effective services to youth in an effort to divert them from further delinquency involvement. The goal is to provide intensive services to early offenders in an effort to reduce their involvement in the juvenile justice system.

It has become apparent in the intake conference and the Juvenile Justice multi-disciplinary screening process that some early offenders have numerous issues other than the presenting delinquency referral. The multi-disciplinary screen includes indicators that screen children for alcohol or other drug abuse, family dysfunction, school or truancy problems, mental health problems, and delinquent behavior patterns. It is our intent to target those youth with the delinquent behavior pattern and issues in any two other areas of concern for intensive intervention. These youth would be considered for Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPA) and would meet the criteria for such an agreement. The services of the grant social worker are included in the DPA by the assigned county staff. It is our intent to provide intensive, supportive, and effective services to each youth and his/her family based on identified strengths and needs.

Number of Youth Served: 69

Promoting Safe and Stable Families - Community Grants:

Oneida County Department of Social Services received funding of \$ 46,350 for 2007. Of this funding, \$10,000 is designated for Community Grants on a request for proposal basis. These funds will be spent in the Family Support service category of the grant. The Promoting Safe and Stable Families Steering Committee includes representatives from seven program areas. The program areas are: Basic Needs/Housing, Community Resources, Public Health, Parenting, Childcare/Birth to Three, Family and Community Education, and Child Welfare. The Steering Committee also consists of community members. This committee meets to discuss the plan requirements of the grant and to make requests for proposal funding decisions. The following projects received funding for 12 months during the calendar year:

	<u>Allocation:</u>	<u>Spent:</u>
Campfire USA Oneida Council	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Family Resource Connection-First Books	3,750.00	3,750.00
Family Resource Connection-Northwoods 2-1-1	2,250.00	2,250.00
Kids in Need	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

Oneida County Department of Social Services acts in the capacity of Fiscal Agent for monitoring and accounting of all expenditures and reporting requirements.

REFERRALS OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF PROTECTION AND SERVICES

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Children in Need of Protection & Services	99	35	117	64	46	55
Uncontrollable Teen	62	46	24	91	123	102
Truant	13	10	02	13	20	26
Runaway	<u>33</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	207	98	143	171	197	193

The total number of referrals of Children in Need of Protection and Services increased in 2007. The seriousness of the needs of these children have consistently required more intensive, higher cost interventions. The number of uncontrollable teens has increased. The number of truants referred has increased. The Oneida County Department of Social Services has continued strategies in service delivery to reduce the number and length of out of home placements in 2007 and will continue to develop community programming. Because of the way that applicable laws are written, the county is responsible for paying for many necessary services for these children. The placement costs will remain high. However, the county will reduce the length of stay in out-of-home placements, which will reduce the amount of money spent on placements. In 2007, 68 new petitions for Children in Need of Protection and Services were filed in juvenile court. This is an increase from 2006 when 47 petitions were filed. The new petitions requested in 2007 do not account for the court cases that were extended in 2007 from petitions filed in 2006 and earlier.

INDEPENDENT LIVING GRANT

In 2007, the Oneida County Department of Social Services received grant dollars to provide independent living services to 15 to 21 year olds, to prepare them for living independently. Oneida County Department of Social Services served 10 youth. The eligibility requirement is that the youth are in an out-of-home placement for 6 months at age 15 or older. Independent living services include independent living assessments, planning, and ongoing services, i.e.: job seeking, apartment searches, grocery shopping, meal planning, etc. Independent living funds were utilized to purchase equipment and resources for independent living, provide independent living assessment and training for eligible youth.

Total spent in 2007 = \$ 9,806.58

CRISIS RESPITE DAY CARE

Crisis Respite Day Care Services are provided to families for their children in a certified or licensed day care center. The purpose of these funds is to enabling the child's parent or guardian to improve parenting skills, to participate in alcohol and other drug abuse or mental health treatment, providing care and stimulus for the development of a child, to maintain the integrity of families under stress, to prevent abuse and neglect, and to prevent out-of-home placement or disruption of children.

Total spent in 2007: \$ 1,754.00

Total children served: 1

DAY CARE CERTIFICATION/RE-CERTIFICATION

This service determines if childcare providers wishing to be certified by the County have met certification standards. Site visits to regularly & provisionally certified child care providers to ensure healthy and safe environments, providing technical assistance and training information to providers, and re-certification of providers.

New Providers Certified in 2007: 04

Total Providers in 2007: 16

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Shelter Services are provided for victims of domestic abuse and their children. Funds are provided to the Tri County Domestic Abuse Shelter.

Total spent in 2007: \$ 15,000.00

Total Families served: 21

The Department of Social Services acts as fiscal agent for this county funded program.

KINSHIP CARE

The provision of care of a child/juvenile by a relative either through Court Ordered services or voluntary placement by parent or legal guardian. A relative caregiver may apply for Kinship Care funding of \$215.00/month. The caregiver may also apply for Medical Assistance for the child through the Economic Support Unit. There must be a fee of \$5.00 paid for a criminal background check on each adult in the household and any employee of the caregiver who may have contact with the child. There must be a home visit to the caregiver's home and the parent(s) must agree to the placement or it must be Court Ordered. There is an annual review of the placement, funding authorization and criminal background check.

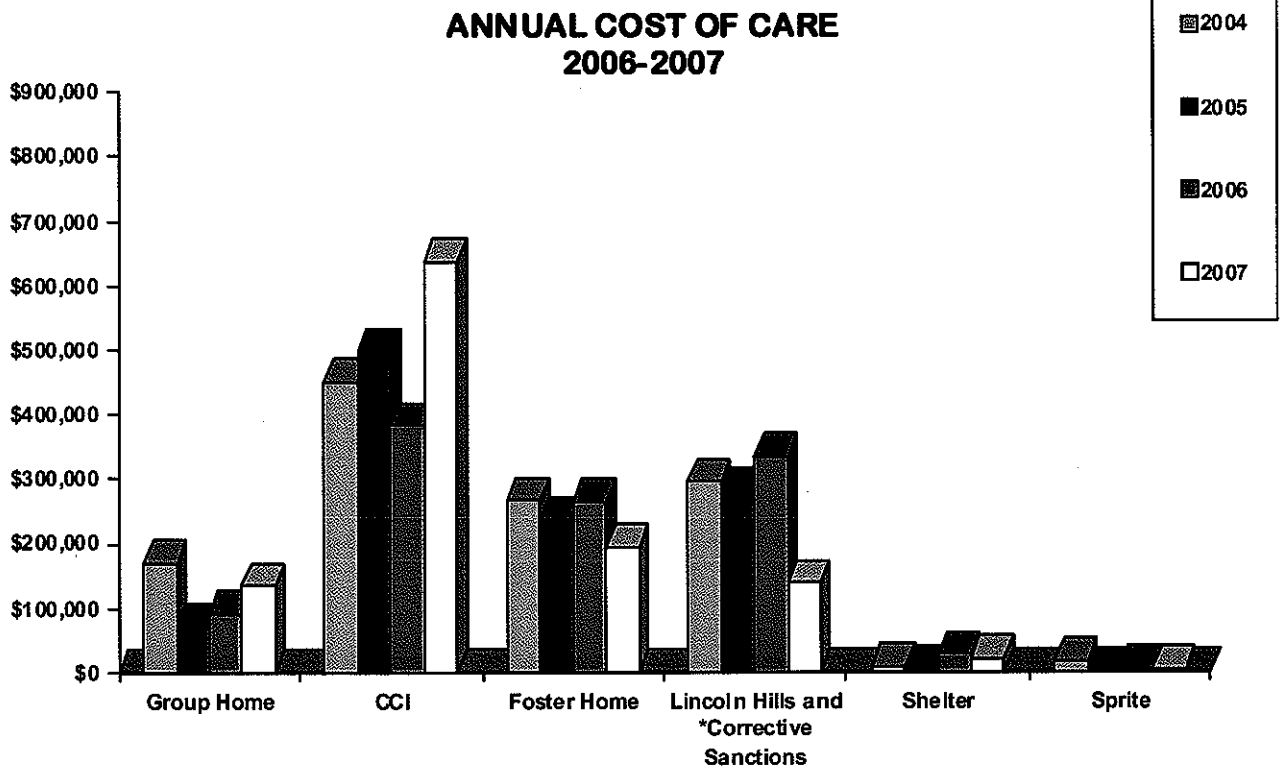
New applications received in 2007: 15

Number of Children served: 45

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS OF CHILDREN

The number of children in each type of out of home placement during 2006 and 2007 are as follows:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Licensed Foster Home	35	37
Group Home	05	06
Residential Care Center	12	11
Correctional and *Corrective Sanctions	08	07
Shelter Care	<u>12</u>	<u>32</u>
TOTAL	70	93



Foster Home costs include treatment foster home administrative costs

Costs are reported net of refunds

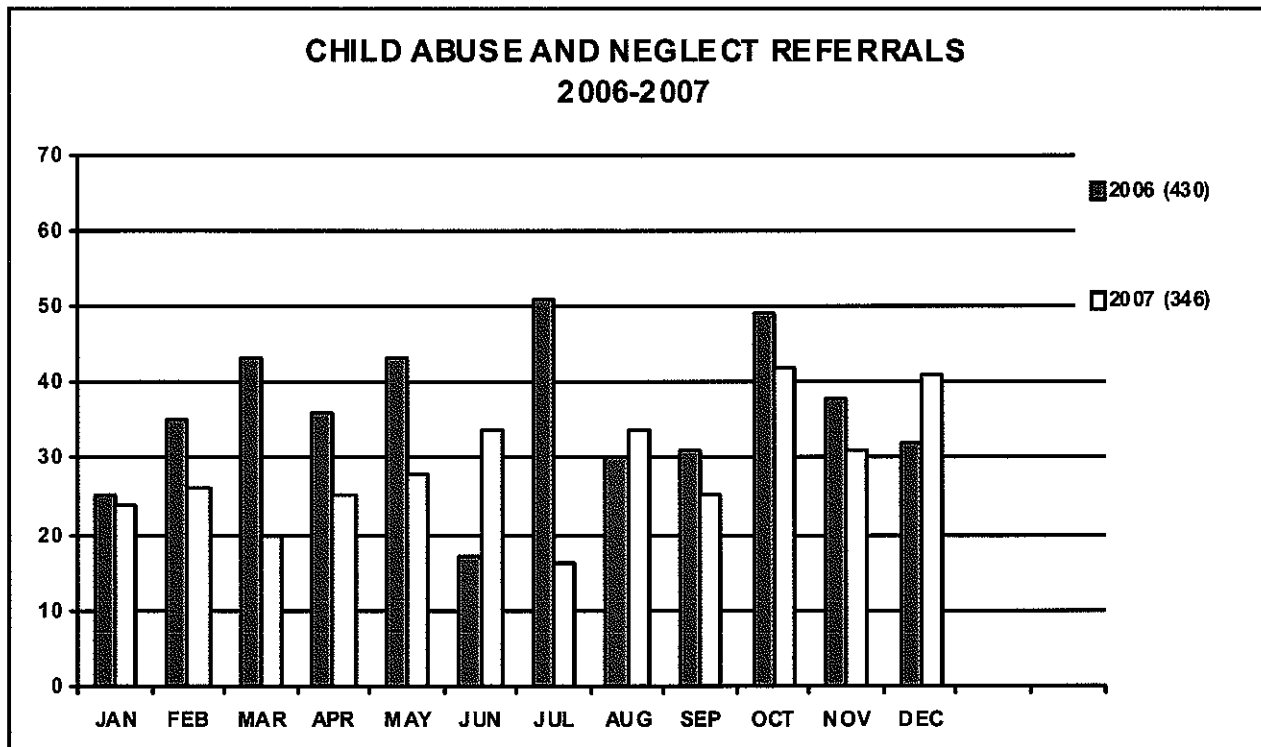
*Corrective Sanctions numbers included in 2007

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The County Department of Social Services is obligated under 48.981 Wisconsin State Statutes to investigate all child abuse and neglect referrals that fall under the statutory definitions. In addition to cases that meet the definitions, the Department also receives a significant number of referrals each year which reporters identify as child abuse or neglect but which do not meet the legal definitions. These referrals are screened out through a brief investigation and may receive services on a short-term basis or under another service area such as divorce/custody services. The Department received 443 child abuse and neglect referrals. 346 cases received full child abuse and neglect investigations, 97 cases were briefly investigated, screened out, or were served as children in need of protection and services.

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT REFERRALS RESULTING IN A FULL INVESTIGATION:

NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	EMOTIONAL/ VERBAL	MUTUAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY	NEGLECT/ ABUSE LIKELY TO OCCUR	TOTAL
148	69	119	0	10	00	346

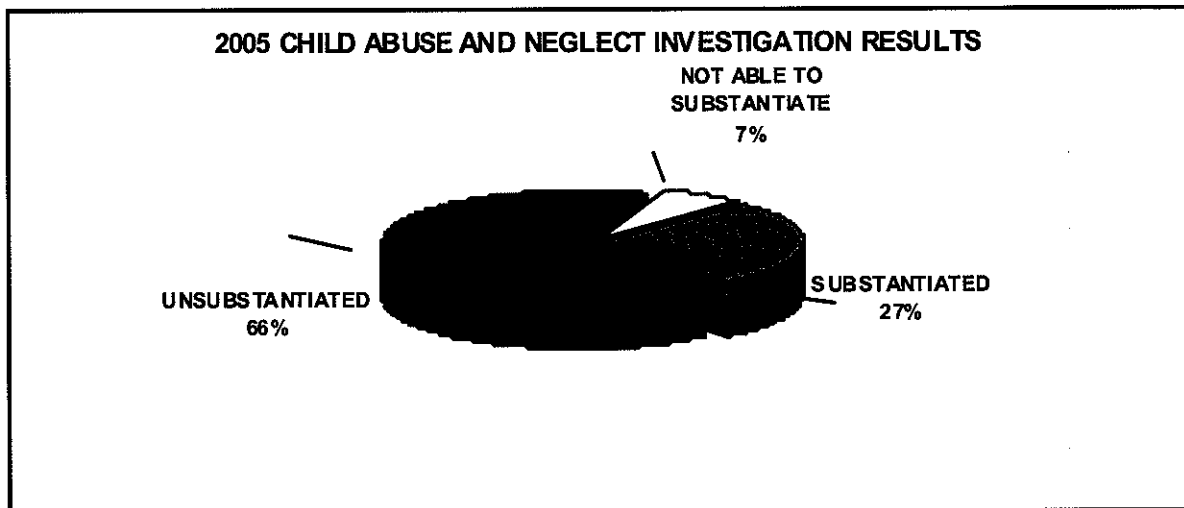


CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS STATISTICS

(continued)

Type of Referral	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Not able to Substantiate	Total
Neglect	53	91	4	148
Physical Abuse	7	60	2	69
Sexual Abuse	24	77	18	119
Emotional/Verbal	0	0	0	0
Mutual Sexual Activity	8	1	1	10
Neglect or Abuse Likely to Occur	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	92	229	25	346

The substantiation rate increased from 25% in 2006 to 27% in 2007.



SUPPORT STAFF-ACCOUNTING/RECORD KEEPING

The Accounting Support Staff Unit consisted of eleven employees; the Support Staff Supervisor, one Account Technician, two Account Clerk II's, one Information Specialist, one Typist III, three Typist II's, one Typist I and one Account Clerk I. The main functions of this unit for Oneida County Department of Social Services is the accurate and timely preparation of financial and statistical reports for management, the county, and the State of Wisconsin; the preparation of typed reports and documents; and customer service at the front desk.

The financial responsibility of the unit includes such functions as: a weekly accounts payable; collection of debt due the agency (Third Party Liability, Overpayment of Food Share, Medical Assistance and AFDC, and Parental Liability); monthly financial reports for management; annual budget review & preparation; determining appropriate funding sources for children in substitute care; numerous monthly reports of expenses, collections, and client counts to the State Department of Health & Family Services, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Administration, and the Department of Workforce Development; fiscal agent responsibilities for Long Term Support Clients; receipting and tracking all funds received in the agency; and the adjusting of child support payments using the KIDS computer system.

The statistical responsibilities of the unit include preparation of monthly case list for the Social Work units; data entry of client and financial information into HSRS (Human Services Reporting System) and SACWIS (Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System); and maintenance of records necessary to the operation of the department.

Another important function of the unit is the maintenance of client files. Court Reports, Child Abuse and Neglect Reports, Dictation and numerous other documents are professionally prepared by the Typist II's. Files are maintained by the Typist I position, who is responsible for day to day filing, repairing files as they deteriorate, and maintaining the files in an orderly fashion in the file cabinet area. The Typist I is responsible for the scanning of Economic Support files in the Electronic Case File system. Office supply inventory is also maintained by the Typist I.

The Support Staff unit has the additional responsibility of maintaining the computer hardware and software for the department. The department currently has a network file server that is connected to 47 personal computers located throughout the agency. Agency staff access the Department of Health and Family Services, Department of Workforce Development, and Department of Administration programs through the Internet. Network and personal computer software upgrades are done annually. Software currently used by the agency are: Word, Excel, Access, GroupWise and Visual WISSIS (a FoxPro based accounting program).

Work performed by the unit is done under the supervision of the Support Staff Supervisor who is under the direct supervision of the Director. Annually the accounting records are reviewed by the Finance Director for Oneida County and are subject to state audit guidelines in the annual countywide single audit.

CHILD SUPPORT

In 2007, the Child Support Unit in Oneida County consisted of five employees: The Child Support Supervisor, two Child Support Specialists, one Secretary, and one Typist II. This office functions under the direct supervision of Mr. Paul E. Spencer, Jr., the Director of the Oneida County Department of Social Services.

The major functions of the Child Support Unit are as follows:

1. Establishment of paternity on behalf of children whose parents were not married to each other at the time of the child's birth.
2. Establishment of court orders obligating parents to pay child support and provide health care for their children, including health insurance coverage.
3. Collect child support payments.
4. Take administrative and legal actions necessary to enforce a support order when parents fail to pay the support they have been ordered to pay.
5. Find parents who are not paying support, and locate their income and assets, when necessary, to establish or enforce a child support order.

A close working relationship within the section was maintained through bi-weekly staff meetings. These meetings, along with bi-weekly individual conferences with the section supervisor, helped to monitor any problem areas, new developments and procedures, etc. The supervisor serves as the liaison to the director and the director attended an average of one support section staff meeting per month to keep the section informed of new developments affecting the agency.

The Child Support Unit has working contracts with the following county agencies: Family Court Commissioner, Clerk of Courts, and the Office of Corporation Counsel. The Child Support Office seeks reimbursement of a portion of the above-named department's salaries and benefits, as each of these departments assist the Child Support Office on a daily basis.

Child Support Unit caseload (as of 12/31/07)	1,844
Child Support collected for NVID cases	\$1,276,334.84
Child Support collected for out of state IVD cases	\$ 124,771.98
Child Support Distributed to WI IVD cases	\$4,536,363.49
Total Child Support collected in 2007:	\$5,937,470.31

**CHILD SUPPORT
COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES AND REIMBURSEMENT
SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 2007**

<u>2007</u>	<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>Reimbursement Received</u>	<u>Amount of Earned Incentive Received by Oneida County Includes Performance Based & Medical Support</u>	<u>Total Reimbursement Received by Oneida County</u>
TOTAL	\$572,819	\$377,734.00	\$103,643.00	\$481,377.00

Costs not reimbursed: \$ 91,442

TOTAL IV-D COST-Child Support Agency

\$400,158.00

TOTAL CHILD SUPPORT RELATED COSTS BY DEPARTMENT:

Clerk of Courts	\$ 3,082.00
Family Court Commissioner	\$ 54,151.00
Corporation Counsel	\$ 70,029.00
 TOTAL	 \$127,262.00

Indirect Costs Billed: \$ 45,399.00

Total expenditures equal all costs associated with the operation of the Child Support agency, including costs associated with other County departments, and indirect costs.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT (ES)

The Economic Support Section of the Oneida County Department of Social Services administers the financial assistance programs mandated by the Federal government and the State of Wisconsin. These programs include Medical Assistance (MA), Food Stamps (FS), Childcare, and the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

State and Federal personnel consistently monitor the work ES does in these programs. They audit files, check benefits, and in some cases, do independent interviews with the clients of Oneida County to ensure accuracy.

Emphasis has been put on improving accuracy and lowering error rates statewide. Part of the effort for improved accuracy has been the development of state training for ES. Refresher courses for experienced workers are also required for ongoing efficiency. The state has mandated that each ES worker have at least 12 hours of personal development training.

Clients continue to apply via the interactive interview for Food Stamps and Medical Assistance. Clients are also given the opportunity to apply for Medical Assistance and Food Stamps via mail-in or phone-in applications. Clients may also apply online through ACCESS. Changes may also be reported online. Information is entered and processed in the CARES (Client Assistance for Re-employment and Economic Support) computer system. CARES is being converted in segments to CARES WORKER WEB (CWW) which is an internet based computer system.

The ES Section consists of one Economic Support Supervisor and six eligibility workers. The ES section is responsible for the determination of initial eligibility for financial assistance and the ongoing review of existing eligibility. Each assistance program has its own specific eligibility factors. The continuous changes in these eligibility factors through Federal and State laws contribute to the complexity of caseload management. The following statistical breakdown reflects each assistance program administered in Oneida County.

AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC)

In 2007, the Oneida County Department of Social Services did not issue any cash benefits to clients, as the AFDC program no longer exists. The W-2 program replaced the AFDC program and Forward Services is issuing W-2 benefits to eligible clients.

However, overissued AFDC benefits still needed to be recovered. These overissuances were due to household error, fraud, or agency error. Clients repay the overissuance either in cash, tax intercept, or on rare occasions the benefits may be recouped from their W-2 benefits.

In 2007, the following amounts were collected:

<u>AFDC Recoveries</u>	
Cash	\$ 405.00
<u>Tax Intercept</u>	<u>\$ 1,240.19</u>
Total	\$ 1,645.19

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)

Oneida County had an average of 2,562 Medical Assistance cases per month in 2007. Potentially eligible clients were under age 19, over age 65, pregnant, disabled, or with a minor in their care. There are more than 40 different categories of medical assistance including Healthy Start, (no assets, targeting children under six and pregnant women) AFDC related, SSI related, Nursing Home and QMB which pays the Medicare premium for the qualified applicant/recipient. BadgerCare, which targets working families, was added July 1, 1999.

Yearly Medical Assistance Costs

2003	\$ 27,564,776.51
2004	\$ 30,014,107.76
2005	\$ 30,900,362.37
2006	\$ 25,465,049.11
2007	\$ 23,134,286.00

Transportation is one of the services offered through the Medical Assistance Program. Clients are reimbursed for mileage to attend medical appointments that are covered by Medical Assistance. In some instances, meals and lodging are also reimbursed.

Total paid in 2007 \$ 93,940.78

When a client is on Medical Assistance and passes away, Medical Assistance may pay towards the cost of the burial. The cost of the funeral is considered as well as other resources such as a funeral trust or life insurance. Payment up to \$1500 may be made on the funeral and payment up to \$1000 may be made on cemetery costs.

Total paid in 2007 \$ 40,860.50

THIRD PARTY LIABILITY (TPL)

Medical Assistance (MA) is to be the payer of last resort for the cost of medical care. Some recipients may have additional insurance coverage for medical services. Medical service providers may in error have billed services covered by additional insurance. The Support Staff unit attempts to identify these cases in order to recover the MA expenditures. Similar situations occur when a MA recipient is involved in an accident for which the insurance coverage of an outside party is responsible. The Support Staff unit also seeks reimbursement of MA payments from these cases. The Oneida County Department of Social Services is allowed to retain 15% of all MA recoveries.

Total third party liability was recovered :	\$ 49,595.70
Agency Revenue	\$ 7,438.70

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (FS)

Oneida County issued Food Stamps to an average of 1098 households per month in 2007. Food Stamp eligibility is based on household assets, income and shelter expenses. In June of 2000, Food Stamp recipients of Oneida County no longer received Food Stamp coupons. Food Stamp benefits were changed to the Wisconsin EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) Program. Recipients were issued a Wisconsin Quest Card which functions like a debit card allowing the recipient to access their Food Stamp benefits through point of sale terminals at their grocery store.

Total Coupon Issuance

2003	\$1,196,888.00
2004	\$1,448,988.00
2005	\$1,743,933.00
2006	\$1,867,790.00
2007	\$1,959,220.00

Food Stamps overpayments continued to be collected in 2007. Overissuances are due to household error, fraud, or agency error. Clients may repay either in cash, refund Food Stamp benefits available on their EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) Card, or through a reduction in their normal monthly allotment (recoupment). In 2007, the following amounts were collected:

Food Stamp Over-Issuance Recoveries

Cash	\$ 2,385.98
Recoupment	\$ 5,176.00
Tax Intercept	\$ 1,313.19
TOTAL	\$ 8,875.17

CHILDCARE

With the creation of W2, child care requests switched from a Social Service function to a W2/Forward Services responsibility. Currently, Forward Services contracts with this Department to determine eligibility for childcare. Eligibility is redetermined whenever a change occurs and when a six-month review is due. Oneida County Economic Support completes authorizations on an ongoing, as needed basis as changes occur. These changes would be when a client changes the number of hours worked per week, or engages a different childcare provider. ES processes the paperwork so the provider is paid. The parent may need to make a contribution to the cost of child care based on income.

In 2007, the average number of families receiving child care assistance per month was 165 families.

Total childcare dollars provided: \$ 970,893.00

WISCONSIN HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WHEAP)

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program assists county households experiencing problems in obtaining heating fuels. The program operates on a fuel season beginning October 1st of one year and ending September 30th of the following year. Regular program funds are issued to eligible households and those found in a heating emergency situation may also receive additional payment through the Emergency Fuel Program. Benefits issued under the Emergency Fuel Program are only provided to households experiencing a heating emergency that could threaten the safety of the residents. A direct payment is sent to the fuel provider.

LIEAP Regular Program

LIEAP Emergency Program

<u>Fuel Season</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Households Served</u>	<u>Fuel Season</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2003-2004	\$279,307.00	1,221	2003-2004	\$135,477.00
2004-2005	\$420,156.00	1,229	2004-2005	\$170,663.00
2005-2006	\$658,362.00	1,342	2005-2006	\$155,723.00
2006-2007	\$267,261.00	1,180	2006-2007	\$177,823.00

The furnace repair/replacement component of the WHEAP program allows Oneida County Department of Social Services to contract with vendors for the repair or replacement of furnaces for eligible households.

Total cost: \$18,835.00

The Public Benefit component of the WHEAP program began in the 2000-2001 fuel season. The goal is to assist qualified recipients with their electric costs. These households may or may not have received a regular LIEAP program benefit as well.

<u>Fuel Season</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Households Served</u>
2003-2004	\$ 73,748.00	1,264
2004-2005	\$ 97,045.00	1,224
2005-2006	\$ 180,176.00	1,340
2006-2007	\$ 129,978.00	1,227

WELFARE FRAUD/FRONT END VERIFICATION

Welfare fraud is defined as receiving or helping another person receive benefits or payments to which they are not entitled. Investigations are initiated by information matching with other governmental organizations, client interviews, and contacts from the general public. Fraud investigations are done on Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, W2 (Wisconsin Works) and Childcare programs.

Program Integrity (Front End Verification) is a process of intense scrutiny of cases that exhibit characteristics of potential program violation or are prone to error. Program Integrity is intended to prevent issuance of incorrect benefits and may involve investigative activities. The primary goal of the Program Integrity investigation is to insure accurate benefit issuance, not to accomplish criminal prosecution.

The Oneida County Department of Social Services contracts with the Oneida County Sheriff's Department to investigate fraud and to do Program Integrity. The Department works closely with the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office to prosecute welfare fraud.

2007

Front End Verification Referrals	09
Fraud Referrals	05
Pre-Charge or Pre-Trial Diversion	00
Court Resolved Fraud Cases	01
Pending Fraud	00
 Total Fraud Restitution ordered	 \$ 1,758.76